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MEMORANDUM

To: K. Lawrence, USEPA

From: M. Schwennesen, Technical Assistance Team

Date: February 8, 1995

Subject: Review of Omega Chemical Corporation Drum Storage Stabilization Health

and Safety Plan, Omega Chemical Corporation, 12504 East Whittier Boulevard,

Whittier, California

I have performed a cursory review of the above health and safety plan which was prepared by IT Corporation on February 7, 1995. I have the following comments/recommendations regarding the plan:

- I. Section 3.1 states that Omega personnel will identify damaged drums. This operation should be conducted by an entity experienced in damaged drum conditions and DOT regulations.
- 2. Section 3.3 Flammable Liquids: DOT and RCRA have different definitions for a flammable liquid and flash point. This should be clarified in the text.
- 3. Table 3-1, chromium PEL: for the purposes of health and safety, hexavalent chromium exposure limits should be addressed, in addition to or rather than trivalent chromium, as hexavalent chromium is much more toxic.
- 4. Section 4.2.1 states that bulging drums will be opened remotely. This procedure should be described in detail, as it may be required at the site.
- Section 5.2 states that Level B and Level C personal protection are "not anticipated" at
 the site. Table 5-1 correctly indicates Level B and Level C personal protection will be
 employed for drum handling and hazard categorization, respectively.

recycled paper

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- 6. Section 13, a summary HASP which is site specific, has not been completed. The summary HASP should at a minimum include:
 - Specific real-time air monitoring equipment for each expected task;
 - Expected levels of protection for each task;
 - Respiratory protection requirements per task, including SCBA, APR, and APR cartridge type;
 - Site-specific exposure limits based on best available information;
 - Action levels for personal protection upgrade;
 - Specific procedures to be used when encountering drums with unknown contents (including remote drum opening, mentioned above); and
 - Specific procedures for dealing with unstable tiers of drums, drums on crumbling pallets, and forklift safety